

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

STRIKE 3 HOLDINGS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOHN DOE SUBSCRIBER ASSIGNED IP  
ADDRESS 73.241.180.21,

Defendant.

Case No. [23-cv-00246-TSH](#)

**ORDER GRANTING EX-PARTE  
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO SERVE  
THIRD PARTY SUBPOENA PRIOR TO  
A RULE 26(F) CONFERENCE**

Re: Dkt. No. 9

**THIS CAUSE** came before the Court upon Plaintiff's Ex-Parte Application for Leave to Serve a Third-Party Subpoena Prior to a Rule 26(f) Conference (the "Application"), and the Court being duly advised does:

**FIND, ORDER AND ADJUDGE:**

1. Plaintiff has established that "good cause" exists for it to serve a third-party subpoena on Comcast Cable (hereinafter the "ISP"). *See UMG Recording, Inc. v. Doe*, 2008 WL 4104214, \*4 (N.D. Cal. Sep. 3, 2008); *Arista Records LLC v. Does 1-19*, 551 F. Supp. 2d 1, 6-7 (D.D.C. 2008);

2. Plaintiff may serve the ISP with a Rule 45 subpoena commanding the ISP to provide Plaintiff with the true name and address of the Defendant to whom the ISP assigned an IP address as set forth on Exhibit A to the Complaint. Plaintiff shall attach to any such subpoena a copy of this Order;

3. Plaintiff may also serve a Rule 45 subpoena in the same manner as above on any service provider that is identified in response to a subpoena as a provider of Internet services to one of the Defendants;

4. If the ISP qualifies as a "cable operator" under 47 U.S.C. § 522(5), which defines the term "cable operator" as "any person or group of persons (A) who provides cable service over a cable system and directly or through one or more affiliates owns a significant interest in such cable

1 system, or (B) who otherwise controls or is responsible for, through any arrangement, the  
2 management and operation of such a cable system,” the ISP shall comply with 47 U.S.C. §  
3 551(c)(2)(B), which provides that “[a] cable operator may disclose such [personal identifying]  
4 information if the disclosure is . . . made pursuant to a court order authorizing such disclosure, if  
5 the subscriber is notified of such order by the person to whom the order is directed,” by sending a  
6 copy of this Order to the Defendant; and

7 5. Plaintiff may only use the information disclosed in response to a Rule 45 subpoena  
8 served on the ISP for the purpose of protecting and enforcing Plaintiff’s rights as set forth in its  
9 Complaint.

10 **6. The ISP shall serve a copy of the subpoena and a copy of this order on the**  
11 **subscriber within 30 days of the date of service on the ISP.** The ISP may serve the subscribers  
12 using any reasonable means, including written notice sent to the subscriber’s last known address,  
13 transmitted either by first-class mail or via overnight service.

14 7. Each subscriber and the ISP shall have **30 days** from the date of service upon him, her,  
15 or it to file any motions in this court contesting the subpoena (including a motion to quash or  
16 modify the subpoena). If the 30-day period lapses without the subscriber contesting the subpoena,  
17 the ISP shall have 10 days to produce to Plaintiff the information responsive to the subpoena with  
18 respect to that subscriber.

19 8. The ISP shall preserve all subpoenaed information pending the ISP’s delivering such  
20 information to Plaintiff or the final resolution of a timely filed motion to quash the subpoena with  
21 respect to such information.

22 9. Any name or other personal identifying information of any current or proposed  
23 defendant shall be filed **UNDER SEAL** in all filings.

24 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

25 Dated: February 15, 2023

26   
27 THOMAS S. HIXSON  
28 United States Magistrate Judge